

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9 and 11 - 16 are pending in the application.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 10 – 13 would be allowable. In conformity therewith, claim 9 has been amended to incorporate therein the features of allowable claim 10. All of the remaining claims are directly or indirectly dependent upon thus-amended claim 9. The Examiner's 35 USC 112 objection to the limitation "associated" in claim 9 has been addressed by deleting the word "associated". However, the Examiner's 35 USC 112 objection to claim 16 is not understood since the preamble to this claim recites "a safety belt retractor". Thus, it is respectfully submitted that antecedent basis is in fact provided for the term "belt retractor".

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that pending claims 9 and 11 – 16 are now in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to resolve any outstanding issues and to expedite placement of the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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